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LITERATURE CITED

- BLASDELL, R. F. 1963. A monographic study of the fern genus *Cystopteris*. Mem. Torrey Bot. Club. 41(4):1-102.
- MABRY, T. J., K. R. MARKHAM, and M. B. THOMAS 1970. The Systematic Identification of Flavonoids. Springer-Verlag, New York.

REVIEW

"FLORA OF CHIAPAS, PART 2. PTERIDOPHYTES," by Alan R. Smith. 370 pp. California Academy of Sciences. 1981. \$30.00 + postage.—This is the first pteridophyte Flora of a state of Mexico to be published in twenty years, and the first modern pteridophyte Flora for any of the more tropical Mexican states. The number of pteridophytes is much greater than in the drier states of northern Mexico; Smith treats 46 fern allies in five genera and 563 ferns in 99 genera. The volume begins with an introduction, followed by a key to the genera of ferns; Smith notes that tropical ferns can be keyed more reliably to genus than to family because of the technical characters which must be used to distinguish ferns at the family level. The genera and species are treated alphabetically, rather than in systematic order. The synonymies pertain mostly to species described from Mexico and Central America, and include valuable data concerning types. Many species are handsomely illustrated, and literature references are given to illustrations in other works, which is useful to those who have access to good pteridological libraries. Original descriptions, habitat notes, and phytogeographical notes are included for each taxon. Some specimens, especially those collected by Dennis Breedlove, are cited. The fern-allies are similarly treated following the ferns. An appendix of abbreviations, an addendum, and an index to accepted names and synonyms concludes the volume. Because of the affinities of the Chiapas flora to that of Guatemala, neighboring countries, and to the adjacent Mexican states, Smith's Flora will be useful beyond the boundaries of Chiapas. Everyone concerned with Central American pteridophytes should have a copy of this book. Readers interested in a full discussion of the vegetation of Chiapas are directed to "Flora of Chiapas, Part 1. Introduction to the Flora of Chiapas," by Dennis E. Breedlove, who is the general editor of the entire "Flora of Chiapas," which is projected to appear in many volumes over several years. The California Academy of Sciences is to be congratulated for publishing these well prepared works at an affordable price.—*D. B. L.*